

ABSTRACT OF APPLIED PROJECT

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Graduate School  
Morehead State University  
2006

UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S EXPERIENCES OF SEXUAL COERCION

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An applied project submitted in partial fulfillment  
of the requirements for the degree of  
Education Specialist at Morehead State University

by

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Committee Chairman: Dr. Beverly M. Klecker

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2006

## UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S EXPERIENCES OF SEXUAL COERCION

### ABSTRACT

Velma L. Campbell, MA, MHE

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Studies of sexual coercion on university campuses have proliferated since the publication of the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski (1987) seminal study (e.g., Abby, 2002; Banyard, Plante, Cohn, Moorhead, Ward, & Walsh, 2005; Billingham, Miller, & Hockenberry, 1999; Gross, Winslett, Roberts, & Gohm, 2006). This research study was undertaken to ascertain the prevalence of sexual coercion of female students at a regional state university in the south. This descriptive research study surveyed a sample of 195 female students. Sexual coercion was defined as any type of unwanted sexual contact. The survey instrument was based on an instrument designed by Garrett-Gooding and Senter (1987). The instrument consisted of questions followed by categorical options. The resultant categorical data were reported as frequencies and percentages. The sample included 40 freshmen, 100 sophomores, 42 juniors, and 13 seniors. The participants ranged in age from 18 to "over 25" with the majority in the 19-20 age range. The ethnic background of the participants was overwhelmingly Caucasian. The majority of participants were unmarried. Fifty-percent of the 195 students reported incidents of sexual coercion at some time during their lives. Twenty-six percent of the 195 participants reported being victims of attempted or completed rape. Fourteen percent of the women experienced at least one incident of

coercion before the age of twelve. Thirty-percent of the students reported having experienced an incidence of sexual coercion since enrolling at the university. Of these 30%, only two women reported the incident to police. None of these women reported seeking counseling after any incident. This study adds to the body of research about sexual coercion on university campuses.

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Accepted by the graduate faculty of the College of Education, Morehead State  
University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the  
Education Specialist Degree in  
Counseling

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## Introduction

### *Statement of the Problem*

In 1987, Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski published the results of a national study of sexual assault of women on college campuses in the United States. Research on this topic had been done prior to this study (e.g., Barnett & Field, 1977; Berger, Searles, Salem & Pierce, 1986; Kanin, 1957; Malamuth, 1986; Rappaport & Burkhart, 1984; Yegidis, 1986). However, Benson, Charlton, and Goodhart (1992) credit the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987) with inspiring an era of increased attention to the issue of sexual assault of women enrolled in college which continued through the 1990's and into this century (e.g., Abby, 2002; Adams-Curtis & Forbes, 2004; Billingham, Miller, & Hockenberry, 1999; Geranios, 2006; Gross, Winslett, Roberts, & Gohm, 2006; Harned, 2005; Lackie & DeMann, 1997; Mills & Granoff, 1992; Moher-Koh, Dowdall, Koss, & Weschler, 2004; O'Sullivan, Byers, & Finkelmann, 1998; Proite, Dannells, & Benton, 1993; Synovitz & Byrne, 1998).

### *Purpose of the Study*

By engaging in this research, it is my intent to ascertain the prevalence of sexual victimization of female students enrolled at Morehead State University.

### *Background and Literature Review*

Tanzman (1992) noted that rape and sexual assault are considered to be violent but under-reported crimes in the United States. The National Violence Against Women survey (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000) found that one in six females and one in thirty-three males had been victims of either completed or attempted rape at some

point in their lives. Three national studies (Brenner, McMahon, & Douglas, 1999; Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000; Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski, 1987) indicated that sexual aggression is a problem among female college students in the United States as well, with rates of completed rape estimated at even higher levels than in the general population (one in four women in the 1987 study, one in five women in the 1999 study, and one in four or five women in the 2000 study).

*National studies on sexual victimization in college.* Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski (1987) surveyed both male and female students at 32 American institutions of higher education regarding sexual aggression they had experienced. Over half of the women queried reported having encountered some type of unwanted sexual contact with a man. In addition to the finding that one in four of these women had been raped or been the victim of an attempted rape, some other type of sexual coercion (e.g., use of verbal threat or pressure to obtain intercourse) was reported by 11.2 percent of students. Another 14.5 percent reported incidents of forced sexual contact (e.g., unwelcome fondling or kissing) which did not progress to intercourse. Only five percent of the women who were raped reported the assaults to police.

The National Victimization of College Women study (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000) also found that over half of the women in their study reported having had some type of unwanted sexual contact with a man. In this study, fewer than five percent of the women who had experienced either completed or attempted rape reported the assault to police.

*Acquaintance rape.* It was also found, in both the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987) and the National Victimization of College Women study (2000), that in the majority of cases of rape and attempted rape, the victim and perpetrator were acquainted. In the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987), 84 percent of the victims were acquainted with their assailants. In the National Victimization Study (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000), it was found that nine out of ten victims knew the person who had assaulted them. Many other studies of assault of college women which were done on a smaller than national scale also found that in the majority of cases of sexual assault (including rape), the victim and perpetrator were acquainted (e.g., Aizenman & Kelly, 1988; Garrett-Gooding & Senter, 1987; Harned, 2005; Koss, 1998; Meilman and Haygood-Jackson, 1996; Miller & Marshall, 1987; Muelenhard & Linton, 1987).

Koss (1992) defined rape committed by someone known to the victim as acquaintance rape. She stated that acquaintance rape involved assaults committed by anyone who is not a complete stranger to the victim. Acquaintances could include someone known only slightly to the victim (such as students in the same class, co-workers, or neighbors) or someone whom the victim knows very well, such as current or past sexual partners.

Date rape is considered to be a subset of acquaintance rape. Rickert and Wieman (1998) stated that date rape denotes sex which is nonconsensual between two individuals who are romantically involved.

*Research on variables other than prevalence.* Following the publication of the landmark Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski (1987) study, researchers began, in greater numbers, to study not only prevalence but other aspects of sexual assault in college. Examples of other variables explored included location of incidents (Koss, 1992; Meilman & Haygood-Jackson, 1996; Miller & Marshall, 1987); characteristics of both victims and perpetrators (Berkowitz, 1992; Koss & Dinero, 1989; Synovitz & Byrne, 1998); vulnerability of sorority members to sexual assault (Copenhaver & Grauerholz, 1993; Kalof, 1993; Rivera & Rigoli, 1987); sexual assault of men, including coercion by women as well as men (Larimer, Lydum, Anderson, & Turner, 1999; Scarce, 1997; Struckman-Johnson & Struckman-Johnson, 1994); and sexual assault of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered students (Duncan, 1990; Hughes, Johnson, & Wilsnack, 2001).

*Patriarchal forces as risk factor for rape.* On the basis of sexual assault findings such as those cited in Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski (1987) and Fisher, Cullen and Turner (2000), as well as many other studies done on a smaller scale, various theories have been formulated and, in some cases, researched, as to why women in particular encounter such a significant risk of being sexually victimized during their lifetime. One such factor which has been discussed as helping lay a foundation for sexual exploitation of women in our American culture is that our society has traditionally been dominated by patriarchal forces (Schwartz & DeKesredy, 1997). These authors refer to Eisenstein's (1980, pg. 60) definition of

patriarchy as “a sexual system of power in which the male possesses superior power and economic privilege.”

One of the consequences of this patriarchy may be the sense of entitlement that some men believe they have to sexual favors when they have paid all expenses for a date. This sense of entitlement in a dating relationship (part of what Schwartz & Dekeserdy, 1997, refer to as “courtship patriarchy”) may extend to the expectation of a woman’s obedience and provision of sex on demand to the male regardless of whether or not she wants to have sex.

*Devaluation of femininity as a risk factor for rape.* Another factor related to patriarchy which may also promote a “rape-supportive” culture is the male devaluation of things perceived as “feminine.” In our American culture the objectification of women is prevalent (e.g. pornography) and the sexual “conquest” of women is a source of pride among many men (Schwartz & DeKeseredy, 1997). Activities which objectify women have been found to be salient among college males – particularly those involved in fraternities and sports – who may submerge the individual identity of a woman in jokes and artifacts pertaining to female body parts. These men may also boast about sexual activity with little regard for the individuality of the women involved (Schwartz & DeKeseredy, 1997).

Muehlenhard and Cook (as cited in Berkowitz, 1992) found that there was pressure on males to engage in intercourse even if they do not wish to do so. They found that two thirds of the men in their study indicated that they had participated in

intercourse against their wishes due to pressure from their peers and the desire to be popular.

*Research regarding fraternities' and athletes' roles in sexual assault.*

Adams-Curtis and Forbes (2004) stated that the higher incidence of sexual assault including gang rape associated with fraternities has been well-researched. The pioneering work of Kirkpatrick and Kanin (1957) found that the number of sexually coercive male college students in their study was over-represented in fraternities. Adams-Curtis and Forbes (2004) cite more recent studies as well (Martin & Hummer, 1998; Sanday, 1990) which concluded that sexual coercion and fraternity membership were correlated. However, as Humphrey and Kahn (2000) discovered, fraternities which exhibited such risk factors as devaluation of women and greater use of alcohol and marijuana were more likely to be associated with a higher incidence of sexual assault.

Schwartz and DeKeseredy (1997) maintained that male athletes have also been disproportionately represented in statistics regarding sexual assault of college women, for some of the same reasons that fraternity members might be. However, Smith and Stewart (2003) discussed additional factors which might encourage athletes to sexually abuse women. Two of these factors include the translation of aggression on the field to personal relationships as well as a sense of elitism which might include feelings of entitlement to sex on demand.

Some research has supported the link between college athletes and sexual aggression (Carroll, 1999; Crosset, Ptacek, McDonald, & Benedict, 1996; Frintner &

Rubinson, 1993 ) while some has not (Lemieux, McKelvie, & Stout, 2002; Smith & Stewart, 2003). However, Humphrey & Kahn (2000) found that some athletes were more likely to perpetrate sexual assaults than others.

As Schwartz and DeKeseredy (1997) have pointed out, the propensity for college men to sexually assault women is an interplay between socialization influences which encourage such behavior (explicitly or implicitly, as in fraternities and in sports) and personality characteristics of the individual male involved. Not all athletes and men involved in fraternities will respond to pressure to think and behave in ways which are demeaning to women. However, some men will do so based upon certain personality characteristics. Research has found certain personality characteristics to be associated with men in college who commit sexual assault. These behaviors that may be associated with personality characteristics include substance abuse, consumption of pornography, and negative gender-based attitudes such as acceptance of rape myths (Carr & VanDeusen, 2004).

*Acceptance of rape myths as risk factor in sexual assault.* Some researchers have maintained that the acceptance of “rape myths” contributes to the high incidence of sexual assault in our society (Carr & VanDeusen, 2004). According to Larrabee and McGeorge (1989), such myths include the belief that women “deserve” to be sexually assaulted if they dress in a provocative manner and that women are actually sexually stimulated by being “forced” to engage in sex. Other such myths include the belief that men can become so aroused that they cannot control their sexual behavior;



that most rapists are sex-starved and “insane;” and that women often say “no” to sex when they really mean “yes.”

*Distortion in communication between sexes as risk factor in sexual assault.*

Regarding the myth – that women often say no when they mean yes – there has been research suggesting that, in some cases, this is not entirely a myth.

Muehlenhard and Hollabaugh (1988) found that 39.3 percent of the college women in their study admitted having said “no” to sex when they really meant “yes” (an action the authors termed “token resistance”).

Muehlenhard and Hollabaugh (1988) speculated that token resistance might be one example of distorted communication between the sexes which might increase the prevalence of sexual assault. Berkowitz (1992) observed that other distortions in communication between the sexes might also lead to a greater risk of sexual assault. Tannen (as cited in Berkowitz, 1992) discussed how men are more willing than women to interpret a wide range of women’s behaviors as being indicative of sexual interest when women do not intend them to be. Such behaviors may include prolonged eye contact by the woman or the act of simply being friendly with no sexual intent on the woman’s part. Such misunderstanding and miscommunication about sex may embolden a man to make unwanted sexual overtures.

*Lack of acknowledgment of rape as “rape” as contributing factor to sexual assault.* Adding additional credence to the concept that the United States may foster a “rape-supportive” culture, Lisak and Roth (1990) found that few men who used force or the threat of force to obtain sex labeled themselves as rapists. Malamuth (1981)

found that at least 35 percent of the subjects sampled in his study of college males admitted to some likelihood of sexually assaulting a woman if they would not be caught and punished for doing so. Petty and Dawson (1989) also found that over 11 percent of the men in their study of college males admitted to some likelihood that they would sexually assault a woman if they knew they would not be punished for doing so.

Women have also been affected by this cultural support of rape to an extent that a significant number of them seem to have accepted the viewpoint that not all experiences which would legally qualify as rape experiences are actually sexual assaults. In the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski (1987) study, only 27 percent of the women whose reported experiences met the legal definition of rape actually thought of themselves as victims of rape. In the National Victimization of College Women study (2000), only 48.5 percent of women who had been victims of rape acknowledged their experiences as rape. In a recent Washington State University study (Geranios, 2006), possibly the largest of its kind done on a single campus, only about 27.4 percent of women whose experience would meet the legal definition of rape actually labeled their experience as rape.

One of the reasons that acquaintance rape (the most prevalent type of assault among college women) may not be acknowledged as assault by many college women is that it has often been seen as being less serious and not as “real” as is assault by a stranger. Garrett-Gooding and Senter (1987) found that if a woman had a history of romantic involvement with a man, college students of both sexes were more

accepting of sexually coercive behavior in the male. Berger, Searles, Salem, and Pierce (1986) found that college women who had experienced sexual aggression from lovers, dates, or friends did not view these actions as sexual aggression.

Koss (1992), however, noted that many of the victims of rape in the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987) still characterized their experience as negative even if they had not labeled it as sexual assault. Koss stated that these women often admitted to feeling “victimized” by the men who had assaulted them. Harned (2004) found that a woman’s level of distress following an assault was not based upon whether or not she labeled her experience as a sexual assault. The women who did not label their experience as an assault were found to be just as distressed as the women who did.

*Other factors associated with sexual assault on college campuses.* Humphrey and Kahn (2000) found that women in the age range of 16-24 (the age range of most “traditional” college students) are victims of rape at a rate four times higher than that of other women in the general population. Thus, the age of the traditional college woman has been found to be correlated with increased risk of rape. In addition, Fisher, Cullen, and Turner (2000) stated that women in college are at greater risk for sexual assault than women of similar age who are not enrolled in college.

Young, and in some cases naïve women and men who may be living away from home unfettered by parental restraints for the first time may become involved in circumstances conducive to the commission of sexual assault. An inexperienced young woman may be more willing to spend time at an isolated site where sexual

assault may be more likely to occur (Hanson & Gidycz, 1993), especially if the male who accompanies her is sexually predatory (Schwartz & Pitts, 1995).

*Importance of research on sexual assault in college.* The issue of sexual assault is of importance due in part to both the short- and long-term effects of such assaults on the victims. The consequences of sexual assault for women have been found to be negative and, in some cases, devastating. Larrabee and McGeorge (1989) described some documented symptoms of recent rape victims. These included phobias, depression, anxiety, sexual dysfunctions, problems at work and in social situations, shame, guilt, impaired self-esteem, nightmares, and withdrawal from others, including family and spouse. Burgess (1983) termed such symptoms following a rape as Rape Trauma Syndrome.

Although these symptoms abate within three months for some rape victims, many other victims continue to deal with symptoms for longer periods of time. Burgess and Holstrom (as cited in Larrabee & McGeorge, 1989) found that 63 percent of women continue to experience symptoms for longer than three months. McCahill, Meyer, and Fishman (as cited in Larrabee & McGeorge, 1989) found that 33 percent of the victims in their study had symptoms which persisted beyond three months.

Nadelson, Jackson, & Gormick (1982) found that 41 percent of victims who were interviewed from 15 to 30 months following a rape continued to deal with episodes of depression. Burt and Katz (as cited in Benson, Charlton, & Goodhart, 1992) found that victims of acquaintance rape blamed themselves more for their

assault and perceived themselves to be less recovered from their assault than did victims of stranger rape for up to three years following the rape.

Lenihan and Rawlins (1994) stated that sexual assault victims in college often become depressed, suffer a decline in grades, and may drop out of school. Koss, Dinero, Seibel, and Cox (1988) found that female victims of sexual assault seeking counseling services on campus, averaged one standard deviation higher than non-victims on standard measures of psychological symptoms. This study also found that 27 percent of rape victims on campus had experienced suicidal ideation following the assault to the extent that they had considered the methods they might use to kill themselves. Bridgeland, Duane, and Stewart (2001) found, among the college student population, a statistically significant correlation between having been the victim of rape and subsequent suicide attempts.

### *Design*

This was a descriptive research study using survey methodology. In order to ascertain the incidence of sexual coercion among female students at Morehead State University, a questionnaire was developed (see Appendix A). This questionnaire was administered to students in classes which met during the university's day schedule.

### *Method*

#### *Participants*

The sample in this study consisted of 195 female undergraduate students enrolled in classes at a rural Kentucky university during the fall semester of 1993 and

the spring semester of 1994. They were drawn from classes through convenience sampling. The classes from which the subjects were drawn were either general requirements for all courses of study or were often chosen as general electives.

The sample included 40 freshmen, 100 sophomores, 42 juniors, and 13 seniors. The participants ranged in age from 18 to “over 25.” The majority of the participants were in the 19-to-20 year range. The ethnic background of the participants was overwhelmingly Caucasian. The majority of participants were not married.

### *Instrument*

The questionnaire used in this study (Appendix A) was based on an instrument developed by Garrett-Gooding and Senter (1987) in a study concerning acts of sexual violence on a university campus. No specific reliability or validity data were reported by the authors in their published study other than that they did a pre-test and revised their questionnaire.

The instrument in this study was modified to a significant degree after receiving permission from Dr. Senter to alter and use it. Reliability and validity studies were not performed. It was believed that the face validity of this instrument would be strong.

### *Procedure*

The questionnaires were distributed to students during the second half of their classes after the male students had been dismissed. The same examiner visited each

class. Students were offered the option of participating or not in terms of filling out the questionnaire.

The students were also required to sign a consent form (Appendix, table 2). They were assured that no attempts would be made to match the names on the consent forms to the questionnaires. Standardized instructions (Appendix, table 3) were given to each class prior to administration of the questionnaire.

### *Data Analysis*

The total percentage of sexually coercive behavior experienced by these students was calculated. The percentage of each discrete type of nine behaviors experienced was also calculated. The results of the analyses are presented as frequencies and percentages in the Results section.

## Results

Usable questionnaires were received from ninety-five students from the classes surveyed. Fifty-nine of the questionnaires contained affirmative responses to queries regarding whether or not they had been the victim of sexually coercive behavior while enrolled as a student at Morehead State University.

Table 1 presents frequencies and percentages by category for the nine discrete types of coercive behavior. These behaviors are listed in order of ascending violence. Each of these nine types of behavior is considered a breach of the law under Kentucky criminal statutes.

The most frequently endorsed behavior was "...attempt to remove your clothing against your wishes." The behavior reported least often was "...slap or hit

you with an object or weapon and was able to obtain sexual intercourse.” The frequency of reported sexually coercive behaviors decreased as the level of violence escalated.

Fifty-four percent (32) of the 59 students reported being involved in at least one incident which involved the use of alcohol on the part of the victim, the perpetrator, or both. Twelve percent (7) of the 59 victims reported being involved in at least one incident in which either the victim or the perpetrator, or both, had been using drugs.

Only two women reported having contacted the police following victimization. In one of these cases, the victim was married to the perpetrator and had reported multiple victimizations by her husband on multiple pages of the questionnaire. None of the 59 students who had been victimized reported having sought counseling following any incident of sexual coercion.



Table 1. *Frequency and Percentages of Sexually Coercive Behavior (N=195)*

Question	Never	Once	2-3 Times	4-5 Times	6 or More Times
For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into MSU...					
1. Touch crotch or genitals against your wishes.	N= 29 ( 49 %)	N= 16 ( 27 %)	N= 9 (15 %)	N=2 ( 3 %)	N= 0 ( 0 %)
2. Attempt to remove your clothing against your wishes.	N= 22 ( 37 %)	N= 21 ( 36 %)	N= 13 ( 22 %)	N= 0 ( 0 %)	N= 2 ( 3 %)
3. Have intercourse with you against your wishes while you were passed out from the influence of alcohol or drugs.	N= 53 ( 90 %)	N= 6 ( 10%)	N= 0 ( 0%)	N= 0 ( 0 %)	N= 0 ( 0 %)
4. Verbally threaten you in an unsuccessful effort to obtain sexual intercourse.	N= 46 ( 78 %)	N= 4 ( 7 %)	N= 7 ( 12 %)	N= 1 ( 2 %)	N= 1 ( 2 %)
5. Verbally threaten you and was able to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)	N= 53 ( 90 %)	N= 1 ( 2 %)	N= 1 ( 2%)	N= 1 ( 2 %)	N= 2 ( 3%)
6. Attempt to hold you down or restrain you in an unsuccessful effort to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)	N= 39 ( 66 %)	N= 13 ( 22 %)	N= 6 (10 %)	N= 1 ( 2%)	N= 1 ( 1%)
7. Attempt to hold you down or restrain you and was able to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)	N= 50 ( 85%)	N= 3 ( 5 %)	N= 1 ( 2 %)	N= 0 ( 0 %)	N= 1 ( 2 %)
8. Slap or hit you, or threaten you with an object or weapon in an unsuccessful attempt to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)	N= 50 ( 85 %)	N= 6 ( 10 %)	N= 0 ( 0%)	N= 0 ( 0 %)	N= 1 ( 2%)
9. Slap or hit you, or threaten you with an object or weapon and was able to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal).	N= 53 ( 90 %)	N= 0 ( 0 %)	N= 0 ( 0 %)	N= 0 ( 1 %)	N= 1 ( 2 %)

Table 2 presents the total number of students victimized regardless of whether they had been victimized following or prior to enrollment at Morehead State University.

Table 2. *Total Number of Students Victimized (N = 195)*

When Victimized	Frequency	Percentage
Victimized Following Enrollment at MSU As Well As Victimized Prior To Enrollment	34	17%
Victimized Following Enrollment At MSU But Not Victimized Before Enrollment	25	13%
Victimized Prior To Enrollment At MSU But Not Victimized Following Enrollment	38	19%
Total Number of Students Victimized	97	50%

Seventeen percent of the students (34) had been victimized both prior to and following enrollment (Table 2). Thirteen percent (25) of the students had been victimized following but not prior to enrollment. Nineteen percent (38) had been victimized prior to but not following enrollment. The total number of women victimized was 97 which comprised 50 percent of the sample of 195 women.

Table 3. *Total Number of Rapes/Attempted Rapes (N=195)*

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Completed Rape	21	11%
Attempted Rape	41	21%
Attempted/ Completed Rape	51	26%

Eleven percent (21) of the 195 women reported experiencing at least one incident which could be legally construed as rape (Table 3). Twenty-one percent (41) of students reported having been the victim of attempted rape.

Some women reported having been the victim of both rape and attempted rape. Twenty-six percent (51) of the 195 subjects reported having been the victim of at least one attempted rape or at least one completed rape, or both. Each woman was counted only once in this total, even if she had experienced both a completed and attempted rape. Thus, the total number of women experiencing at least one incident, rather than total number of incidents, was counted (Table 3).

Of the fifty percent of the women who reported having experienced some type of sexual coercion, fourteen percent (27) of the women reported experiencing at least one incident before the age of 12. Three percent (5) of these respondents reported having experienced at least one incident which would be legally construed as rape prior to the age of 12.

## Discussion

### *Lifetime Rates of Sexual Coercion*

The lifetime rate of sexual victimization in the current study (50 percent) was less than the rate of 64 percent found in the Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski study (1987) and the lifetime rate of 57 percent reported in the National Victimization of College Women study (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000). This was in spite of the fact that the 1987 study asked about sexual victimization “only” since the age of fourteen and the

current study placed no such age restrictions on incidence reporting. The current study, in contrast, inquired specifically about incidents prior to the age of twelve.

One possible factor impacting these varying incidence rates might have been that both national studies included questions regarding the use of verbal coercion to obtain sexual contact. This type of verbal coercion was distinct from verbal coercion using threats of physical harm to obtain sexual contact. This type of verbal coercion involved such activities as “making threats of nonphysical punishment or making promises of reward” or using “pestering/verbal pressure” (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000). The current study, while asking about threats of physical violence, included no questions inquiring about these other types of verbal coercion.

Forty-four percent of the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987) endorsed verbal coercion (other than threats of physical harm) to be a type of sexual coercion they had encountered. It might be possible that asking such a question might inflate rates of sexual coercion to a greater extent than in studies not containing such a question.

Further support for inflated rates of sexual coercion based upon the types of questions asked comes from the 1986 Garrett-Gooding and Senter study. The questionnaire for the current study was adapted from the instrument developed by Garrett-Gooding and Senter (1986). A question regarding unwanted kissing was included in the 1986 study. This question elicited the result that almost 65 percent of the women had been kissed against their will and that three-quarters of the

participants had experienced some type of sexual aggression, including the kissing, since entering college.

#### *Rates of Sexually Coercive Behavior After Enrolling in College*

It was also the case that the percentage of women reporting having experienced at least one incident of sexually coercive behavior since enrolling at Morehead State University was 30 percent, which was considerably lower than the 65 percent reported by the students in the Garrett-Gooding and Senter study following enrollment, as noted above. The 30 percent rate in the current study was also lower than the 54 percent rate of sexual coercion reported in the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1984) when they queried students about sexually coercive behavior the students had encountered during the one-year time span prior to their study. Again, it appears that including questions regarding verbal coercion other than threats of physical harm, or questions in regard to unwanted kissing, might result in higher reported levels of sexual coercion.

#### *Opposition To Inclusion Of Questions Regarding Verbal Coercion And Kissing*

It is the case, however, that broadening the definition of sexual assault to include such behaviors as verbal coercion and unwanted kissing have been criticized by some individuals such as Gilbert (1991). Such critics argue that rates of sexual victimization should not be inflated by including behaviors which they consider to be too “minor” to be defined as sexual assault. Gilbert also expressed the view that expanding the definition of sexual assault in this manner is intended to advance the political agenda of “radical feminists.”

### *Lifetime Incidence Of Rape And Attempted Rape*

The lifetime incidence of rape of eleven percent in the current study is comparable to the lifetime incidence of rape (10.1 percent) in the National College Women Victimization study (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000). However, it was almost less than half the twenty percent lifetime rate found in the Brener, McMahon, and Douglas study (1999). It was also less than the fifteen percent rate since the age of fourteen in the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987).

The lifetime incidence of attempted rape (twenty-one percent) in the current study, however, was almost twice the rate found in the Fisher, Cullen, and Turner national study (2000) and also surpassed the 12.5 incidence rate in the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987).

### *Sexual Victimization Before Age 12*

The fourteen percent rate of sexual victimization of all participants before the age of twelve (including three percent of women who reported experiences meeting the legal definition of rape) emphasized the scope of child maltreatment in the United States, including child sexual abuse.

In 2004, Child Protective Services in the United States substantiated more than 872, 000 cases of child maltreatment (U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, 2004). Approximately ten percent of these cases involved sexual abuse. However, as Hopper (2006) noted, most cases of abuse and neglect of children never come to the attention of authorities. Therefore,

according to Hopper, official government statistics do not reflect the actual rates of child abuse.

Biere and Elliott (1994) discussed the evidence that a large number of emotional and relationship problems have been found to be more frequent among individuals who reported being sexually abused than among individuals who did not report such abuse. Some of the problems reported have included substance abuse and addiction, bulimia nervosa, self-mutilation, sexual dysfunction, impaired social competence, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and suicidal ideation and behaviors.

Another consequence associated with child sexual abuse has been sexual re-victimization. Classen, Palesh, and Aggarwal (2005) noted that it has been found that two of three individuals who are sexually assaulted will be re-assaulted. These researchers also point out that childhood sexual abuse has been the most-researched predictor of sexual re-victimization. Fisher, Cullen, and Turner (2000) and Koss and Dinero (1989) found that a history of child sexual abuse was one of the risk factors for rape in national studies of women in college. Hanson and Gidycz (1993) found that women who had a history of sexual assault were more than twice as likely to be assaulted again in college than women who did not have such a sexual assault history.

Humphrey and White (2000) found a linear path model in their investigation of childhood/adolescent sexual abuse and subsequent victimization in college. They obtained results indicating that adolescent sexual victimization was predicted by having been sexually abused as a child. In turn, victimization as an adolescent was

correlated with sexual victimization during the first year of college, which in turn was associated with victimization in college beyond the freshman year.

### *Marital Rape*

The presence of one woman in the current study who reported being repeatedly sexually assaulted by her husband highlighted the importance of continuing to address this category of rape in research. Bergen (1999) noted that an estimated 10-14 percent of women in the United States are raped by their spouses. Bergen stated that research has found that a woman who is sexually assaulted by her husband may be assaulted multiple times, just as the student in the current study reported being assaulted multiple times by her husband.

Bergen (1999) stated that research has also found that marital rape has often resulted in severe, long-lasting physical and psychological effects on the woman who is assaulted. Campbell and Alford (1989) reported that over half the victims of marital rape in their study were kicked, hit, and burned during their sexual assaults. Bergen (1999) noted that other physical effects of marital rape have included vaginal and anal injuries, knife wounds, and broken bones. Bergen cited studies (Bergen, 1996; Ullman & Siegel, 1993; Frieze, 1983) which found that the long-term impact of marital rape can include depression, sexual problems, problems with trust, and impaired self-esteem. Some victims reported symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder for years following the sexual assault ( Bennice & Resick, as cited in Bergen, 1999).



In spite of the documented and devastating effects of marital rape, however, it has been only since 1993 that spousal rape became a crime in all fifty states (Bergen, 1999). It is also the case, however, that thirty-three states still afford some exemptions for prosecution to spouses. These exceptions involve the lack of force or coercion on the part of the husband when his wife is unable to give consent, such as when she is asleep or unconscious. In other states such as West Virginia and California, the legal penalties for rape of a spouse are less severe than are those for rape of a non-spouse.

The National Center for Victims of Crime (2004) indicated that, even though strides have been made in recognizing and prosecuting marital rape, there is progress still to be made. The Center suggested for instance, that the exemptions from prosecution of spouses who do not use force or violence needs to be removed. The Center also suggested that laws need to provide protection for spouses who are raped equal to victims of rape who are not married to the perpetrator. Making penalties for spousal rape more severe may be a factor which might provide more legal protection for the victims of this crime.

#### *Frequency Of Incidents Since Enrollment In College*

The finding that as the level of violence escalated the frequency of incidents diminished is consistent with the results of most other studies of this nature. Some of these studies include those by Baier, Rosenzweig, and Whipple, 1991; Bridgeland, Duane, and Stewart, 1995; Garrett-Gooding and Senter, 1987; Hughes, Johnson, and Wilsnack, 2001; and Nasta, et al., 2005.

### *Alcohol As A Variable In Sexual Assault*

Consistent with other studies, the current study found that a majority of women reported alcohol involvement (on the part of the victim, perpetrator, or both) in sexual aggression since enrollment at Morehead State University. The Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987) found that about 55 percent of the women and 75 percent of the men in their sample who were involved in rape incidents had been imbibing alcohol or drugs prior to the assault. Among the risk factors for sexual victimization in the National Victimization of College Women study (2000) was frequent drinking on the part of the victim to the point of intoxication.

Parks and Fals-Stewart (2004) found that a college woman's chances of encountering sexual aggression were nine times higher on days when she had been drinking heavily than on days when she had not been drinking at all. The risk was still three times greater when the woman had not been imbibing heavily than on days when she was not imbibing alcohol at all.

Anderson, Spruille, Venable, and Strano (2005) found that heavy episodic drinking was linked to risk of sexual assault for college women. They also found that such drinking was linked to both commission of a sexual assault and being the victim of sexual assault in the case of college males.

Broach (2004) discussed the role alcohol might play in regard to instigating the perpetration of sexual assault on campus. A woman's judgment might be impaired by alcohol such that she might behave in ways, or put herself in situations, which put her at greater risk for sexual assault. She may also overlook cues which suggest that the

perpetrator may have sexual intent. She may, in addition, have reduced muscular coordination and strength with which to defend herself against sexual assault while she is intoxicated.

Broach (2004) also stated that a man who is inebriated may not be as capable of distinguishing cues indicating that a woman does not want sex and so may persist with sexual aggression. Broach noted as well that some men may deliberately imbibe alcohol in order to provide an excuse for engaging in sexually coercive behavior. Some men may deliberately encourage drinking behavior on the part of a woman in order to hinder her judgment and ability to protect herself against assault.

Richardson and Campbell (1982) found that women who are sexually assaulted while intoxicated are blamed more for the assault than are men who commit an assault while they are intoxicated. Abbey (2002) theorized that this may be one of the reasons for the low rate of reporting by college victims of sexual assault who are intoxicated.

Roiphe (as cited in Schwartz & Leggett, 1999) is one of the theorists who has maintained that women who are too inebriated to protest when they are assaulted are more unaffected by the rape than they would be were they not intoxicated. However, Schwartz and Leggett (1999) found in their study that 94 percent of the women who were raped while inebriated reported being affected in some way, and that 11.4 percent maintained that they were significantly affected by the assault.

### *Use Of Drugs As A Variable In Sexual Assault*

In contrast to the use of alcohol, a smaller number (twelve percent) of women assaulted since enrollment at Morehead State University reported the involvement of drugs (on the part of the victim, perpetrator, or both) . In each of these cases, the woman had also been involved in at least one incident involving the use of alcohol as well. However, it could not be determined whether drugs were involved in the same incidents which involved alcohol or in separate incidents not involving alcohol.

Most studies regarding the use of drugs in regard to sexual assault on university campuses have used statistics combining alcohol and drug use. This was the case with the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987) as well as studies by Messman-Moore (2004); Mohler-Kuo, Dowdall, Koss, & Wechsler (2004); and Muehlenhard and Linton (1987).

In recent years, the level of concern about the use of so-called “date rape drugs” to facilitate sexual assault, including on university campuses, has grown. Some of the drugs considered to be such drugs are flunitrazepam (Rohypnol), ketamine, and gamma hydroxybutyrate (GHB). However, Sampson (2003) stated that there is no data regarding the incidence of college students who have been sexually assaulted after having ingested these drugs against their knowledge.

Hindmarch and Brinkmann (1999) analyzed substances (including GHB and Rohypnol) in the urinalyses of rape victims. They discovered that alcohol remained the substance most correlated with the crime of rape.

### *Disclosure Of Incidents Of Sexual Assault*

The fact that in the current study, only two cases of sexual assault were reported to police paralleled the results in other studies of this nature. As previously noted, only five percent of the victims of rape in the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study (1987) and less than five percent of victims of rape or attempted rape in the National College Women Victimization Study (2000) reported their assaults to police. Less than five percent of participants in the National College Women Victimization Study (2000) reported an attempted or completed rape to police. Low rates of reporting to police have also been found in studies such as those by Banyard, Plante, Cohn, Moorhead, Ward, and Walsh (2005); Koss, Dinero, Seibel, and Cox 1988); and Miller and Marshall (1987).

Various reasons why women tend not to report to police have been explored. The fact that some women do not perceive their experiences as sexual assault when they are perpetrated by a boyfriend, date, or friend may impede reporting to authorities (Nicholson, Wang, Maney, Yuan, Mahoney, & Adams, 1998). Other reasons for not reporting may include shame, self-blame, fear of not being believed, fear of publicity and the legal system, fear of reprisal from the perpetrator, and fear of one's family finding out about the assault (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000).

Berger, Searles, Salem, and Pierce (1986) found that women tended not to report such behaviors as grabbing and touching of the genitals even though this behavior can be prosecuted as a fourth degree sexual assault in many states. The reasons offered for not reporting included that the offense was too minor to report and that

encountering such behavior is just a risk women take in dealing with the opposite sex in dating and social situations.

Bridgeland, Duane, and Stewart (1995) stated, however, that any experience of sexual coercion, even those considered to be minor, could be harmful to some victims. Adams-Curtis and Forbes (2004) maintained that just because “minor” violations of sexual boundaries are common does not make them acceptable or harmless. These researchers stated that “minor” infractions can lay the foundation for escalation of coercive behavior.

Karjane, Fisher, and Cullen (2002) provided information on two federal laws regarding crime on university campuses. In 1990, Congress passed the Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act of 1990. This law is known as the Clery Act in memory of a Lehigh University student who was raped and murdered in her room in the residence hall in which she lived. This law requires universities to disclose crime statistics, including crimes of a sexual nature, on an annual basis.

An amendment to the Clery Act was passed in 1992 and is known as the Sexual Assault Victims’ Bill of Rights. Among the requirements of this law is that universities develop prevention programs in regard to sexual assault issues.

Morehead State University began releasing sexual assault statistics in 1992. During the years 1992 and 1994, only one sexual assault (rape in both cases) was reported to campus police. In 1994, two rapes, but no other sexual offenses, were reported to campus police.

Some of the assaults reported in the current study took place off-campus and some assaults may have taken place prior to 1992. However, based upon the data that only two students reported their sexual assault to police, it still does not seem likely that official statistics from 1992-1994 reflect the full range of sexual assaults experienced by female students, either on or off-campus.

The current study also found that following no incident of sexual coercion, including rape, did any of the participants report having sought counseling. While some of the same reasons for not reporting to police may account for the failure to seek counseling, it is also the case that victims who suffer harmful and even devastating effects of sexual assault may not, in some cases, receive the assistance they may need to recover from their experience.

Nasta, et al. (2005) found that some college women who did not seek out resources of help following a sexual assault reported a lack of awareness of resources that might be available to them. However, it also seems possible that some of the reasons for not reporting to police may also factor into failure to seek out resources such as counseling.

Dunn, Vail-Smith, and Knight (1999) cited two studies (Koss, Dinero, Seibel, & Cox, 1988 and Wiehe & Richards, 1995) which discovered that the majority of women who had been raped eventually did tell someone about the assault. Miller and Marshall (1987) found that two-thirds of the female victims in their study disclosed their experience with sexual coercion to someone. Thirty-four percent of these women disclosed to a friend while a much lower percentage – five percent – disclosed

to a counselor. Only two percent of these victims disclosed to someone involved in law enforcement.

Dunn, Vail-Smith, and Knight (1999) found that one-third of the college students in their research stated they knew at least one person who had been raped by an acquaintance. Sixty-eight percent of the participants stated that they were friends of the victims. Other categories of relationship to the victims included relatives, dating partners, and, to a lesser extent, new and casual acquaintances.

In the current study, it was found that 66 of all 195 participants reported having been told by at least one other person that this other person had been a victim of sexual coercion. This percentage comprised 34 percent of the total number of participants.

Research by Pennebaker, Kiecolt-Glaser, and Glaser (1988) and Ullman and Filipas (2002) found that seeking support and talking with others was therapeutic for victims of sexual assault. However, it was also found that victims of severe assaults encountered less positive reactions from others than did victims of less severe assaults. They found that this related to racial and cultural issues among participants.

#### *Prevention Efforts in Universities In Regard To Sexual Assault*

This study found that only 29 percent (17) of the students who had reported being a victim of sexual coercion since enrolling at Morehead State University had attended a sexual assault workshop prior to the incident(s). However, it would seem to be likely, in view of the passage of the Clery Act amendment in 1992, that if the



study were repeated, more students would report having attended such a workshop prior to the incident of victimization.

There have been numerous studies since the publication of the Koss, Gidycz, and Wisniewski study in 1987 which have described and/or explored the effectiveness of sexual assault prevention programs at various universities (e.g., Heppner, Humphrey, Hillenbrand-Gunn, & DeBord, 1995; Rosenthal, E.H., Heesacker, M., & Neimeyer, G.J., 1995; Breitenbecher, K.H., & Scarce, M., 1999). Many of these programs have been co-educational ( Holcomb, Sarvela, Sondag, & Holcomb, 1993; Frazier, Valtinson, & Candell, 1994; Yeater, Miltenberger, Laden, Ellis, & O'Donahue, W., 2001). Some have been geared specifically toward women (Gidycz, Lynn, Rich, Marioni, Loh, Blackwell, et al., 2001; SOChting, Fairbrother, & Koch, 2004; Gidycz, Rich, Orchowski, King, & Miller, 2006). Some have been geared specifically toward men ( Berg, Lonsway, & Fitzgerald, 1999; Davis, 2002, & Choate, L.H., 2003). Some of the programs have been geared toward special groups such as fraternities and athletes ( Jackson & Davis, 2000; Foubert & Cowell, 2004; & Foubert & Newberry, 2006).

Many different modes of presentation of such programs have also been explored, as noted by Anderson and Whiston (2005), who conducted a meta-analysis of college sexual assault programs and their effectiveness. Drawing conclusions about the most effective types of programs is complex, depending not only upon the type of groups targeted but on the type of educational intervention(s)

used, who is presenting (e.g., peers or college staff), and the type of outcome measure(s) employed. There are many inconsistent findings about the most effective types of programs, according to Anderson and Whiston, and they suggested continuing controlled research studies.

Anderson and Whiston (2005) do note that their meta-analysis suggests that sexual assault prevention programs might be more effective when they are longer and more in depth and when they are presented by professionals (as opposed to peer educators). They also suggest that effective programming might include socialization issues among the sexes, risk reduction training, and discussion about rape myths and sexual assault.

Abbey (2002) also indicated that individuals on campuses who are responsible for sexual assault prevention programming need to work closely with those in charge of programming regarding alcohol use and abuse. Abbey stated that these programming efforts do not often emphasize the other as much as they should in view of the strong correlation between sexual assault and alcohol abuse on campus.

#### *Future Directions for Research*

Future research at Morehead State University might include another study of the incidence of sexually coercive behavior at Morehead State University and comparison with rates in the current study. Such an analysis was conducted by Banyard, et al. (2005). These researchers compared the incidence of sexual victimization on their campus in 1988 with the incidence in 2000. They found a statistically significant decrease between these two points in time in the overall rate of

reported sexual victimization. However, there was not a significant decrease in the prevalence of rape during the same period of time.

Some studies have focused on the issue of sexual assault of minority students on campus. Abbey (2002) stated that the incidence of sexual assault among black, Asian, and Hispanic students has been found to be comparable to the incidence among Caucasian students. However, the populations of various minority students on the campus of Morehead State University, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered students, may not be large enough to obtain results sufficient for meaningful analysis.

Populations which might provide numbers sufficient for meaningful analysis might include fraternity and sorority members as well as student athletes. The incidence of sexual victimization among men on campus in general might also provide a fruitful source of study.

Studies by Larimer, Lydum, Anderson, and Turner (1999) and Anderson and Savage (2005) are among those which have explored the issue of sexual aggression toward college men by college women. Findings have been that men are as likely as women to be victims of sexually aggressive behavior by the opposite sex. Anderson and Savage found that some men also experience psychological and physical distress following sexually aggressive behavior from a woman.

Other directions for research might include, but are not limited to, such variables as location of incidents and relationship between victim and assailant.

Acceptance of rape myths on the part of both men and women might also be among the issues explored.

### Conclusions

The current study substantiates that female students at the time of the study had dealt with sexual coercion both before and after their enrollment at Morehead State University. This adds to the body of research regarding the prevalence of such behavior on American university campuses – in this case, a small state university in a rural area of Kentucky. Jordan (Troutman, 2005) also performed a similar study at a larger, urban university in Kentucky (the University of Kentucky) in the spring of 2004. She found that almost 21 percent of female students had encountered some type of sexual coercion while enrolled as a student at that university.

Of concern in the area of research on sexual assault on university campuses as well is the finding that, in spite of the Clery Act and its amendments, only 36.5 percent of universities report crimes in a manner fully compliant with the Clery Act (Karjan, Fisher, and Cullen, 2002). Among other findings were that a minority of such schools provided either sensitivity training for campus security officers or sexual assault response training to student security officers or those who work in residence halls. Arlen Specter and Rick Santorum are U.S. senators who have questioned the U.S. Department of Education's commitment to enforcement of the Clery Act. (McCaffrey, 2006).

The lack of adherence to the Clery Act, in tandem with continued findings on the incidence of sexual assault on campuses, underscores the need for continued

research in this area, and for campuses to be aware of this research and to implement changes which would better insure the safety of their students. Only in this manner can university campuses demonstrate that they are truly serious about the welfare of their students.

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**Appendix A**  
**(Survey Instrument)**

## SURVEY FORM

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 1A. Touch your crotch or genitals against your wishes
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 1I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 1B – 1J which pertain to question 1A.

- 1B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 1C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |
- 1D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 1E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 1F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 1G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more Than one source:
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |
- 1H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |
- 1I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|
- 1J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 2A. Attempt to remove your clothing against your wishes?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 21I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 2B – 2J which pertain to question 2A.

- 2B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 2C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |
- 2D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 2E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 2F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 2G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more Than one source:
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |
- 2H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |
- 2I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|
- 2J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 3A. Have intercourse with you against your wishes while you were passed out from the influence of alcohol or drugs?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 3I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 3B – 3J which pertain to question 3A.

- 3B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 3C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |
- 3D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 3E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 3F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 3G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more than one source:
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |
- 3H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |
- 3I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|
- 3J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|



For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 4A. Verbally threaten you in an unsuccessful effort to obtain sexual intercourse?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 4I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 4B – 4J which pertain to question 4A.

- 4B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 4C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |
- 4D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 4E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 4F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 4G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more Than one source:
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |
- 4H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |
- 4I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|
- 4J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 5A. Verbally threaten you and was able to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)?
- |    |           |    |                 |
|----|-----------|----|-----------------|
| a. | never     | d. | 4-5 times       |
| b. | once      | e. | 6 or more times |
| c. | 2-3 times |    |                 |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 5I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 5B – 5J which pertain to question 5A.

- 5B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |    |           |    |                 |
|----|-----------|----|-----------------|
| a. | never     | d. | 4-5 times       |
| b. | once      | e. | 6 or more times |
| c. | 2-3 times |    |                 |
- 5C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |    |                                    |    |                              |
|----|------------------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| a. | someone not known to me            | d. | a boyfriend                  |
| b. | someone with whom I was acquainted | e. | an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. | a friend                           | f. | other (please specify) _____ |
- 5D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |    |           |    |                 |
|----|-----------|----|-----------------|
| a. | never     | d. | 4-5 times       |
| b. | once      | e. | 6 or more times |
| c. | 2-3 times |    |                 |
- 5E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |    |           |    |                 |
|----|-----------|----|-----------------|
| a. | never     | d. | 4-5 times       |
| b. | once      | e. | 6 or more times |
| c. | 2-3 times |    |                 |
- 5F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |    |           |    |                 |
|----|-----------|----|-----------------|
| a. | never     | d. | 4-5 times       |
| b. | once      | e. | 6 or more times |
| c. | 2-3 times |    |                 |
- 5G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more Than one source:
- |    |  |    |                              |
|----|--|----|------------------------------|
| a. | no one                                 | d. | friend                       |
| b. | police                                 | e. | other (please specify) _____ |
| c. | MSU staff member other than the police |    |                              |
- 5H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |    |                               |    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| a. | never                         | d. | yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. | yes, following one situation  | e. | yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. | yes, following 2-3 situations |    |                                     |
- 5I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |    |     |    |    |
|----|-----|----|----|
| a. | yes | b. | no |
|----|-----|----|----|
- 5J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |    |     |    |    |
|----|-----|----|----|
| a. | yes | b. | no |
|----|-----|----|----|

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 6A. Attempt to hold you down or restrain you in an unsuccessful effort to obtain sexual Intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 6I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 6B – 6J which pertain to question 6A.

- 6B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 6C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |
- 6D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 6E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 6F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 6G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more Than one source:
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |
- 6H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |
- 6I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|
- 6J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 7A. Attempt to hold you down or restrain you and was able to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 7I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 7B – 7J which pertain to question 7A.

- 7B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 7C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |
- 7D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 7E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 7F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 7G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more than one source:
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |
- 7H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |
- 7I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|
- 7J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

8A. Slap or hit your, or threaten you with an object or weapon in an unsuccessful attempt to obtain sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal)?

- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 8I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 8B – 8J which pertain to question 8A.

8B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?

- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

8C.. The relationship between you and the other person was

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |

8D. Had you been drinking alcohol?

- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

8E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?

- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

8F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?

- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |

8G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more Than one source:

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |

8H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |

8I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?

- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

8J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?

- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

For each of the following situations, please indicate if you have ever had a man engage in the specified behavior toward you since your entrance into Morehead State University.

- 9A. Slap or hit you, or threaten you with an object or weapon and was able to obtain sexual Intercourse (vaginal, oral or anal)?

If your answer to the above was never (a), please go on to question 1I. If you answered other than never (a), please answer questions 1B – 1J which pertain to question 1A.

- 9B. Had the other person been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 9C. The relationship between you and the other person was
- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. someone not known to me            | d. a boyfriend                  |
| b. someone with whom I was acquainted | e. an ex-boyfriend              |
| c. a friend                           | f. other (please specify) _____ |
- 9D. Had you been drinking alcohol?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 9E. Had the other person been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 9F. Had you been using mood altering drugs other than alcohol (e.g., marijuana, cocaine, etc.)?
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. never     | d. 4-5 times       |
| b. once      | e. 6 or more times |
| c. 2-3 times |                    |
- 9G. You reported the situation to (please note that the situation may have been reported to more Than one source:
- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. no one                                 | d. friend                       |
| b. police                                 | e. other (please specify) _____ |
| c. MSU staff member other than the police |                                 |
- 9H. Following the situation(s), did you receive counseling?
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| a. never                         | d. yes, following 4-5 situations       |
| b. yes, following one situation  | e. yes, following 6 or more situations |
| c. yes, following 2-3 situations |  |
- 9I. Have any situations such as this one happened to you prior to your enrollment at MSU?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|
- 9J. Did this prior situation occur before you were 12 years old?
- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| a. yes | b. no |
|--------|-------|

What is your age?

- |    |       |    |             |
|----|-------|----|-------------|
| a. | 18    | d. | 23-24       |
| b. | 19-20 | e. | 25 or older |
| c. | 21-22 |    |             |

What is your class standing?

- |    |           |    |                  |
|----|-----------|----|------------------|
| a. | freshman  | d. | senior           |
| b. | sophomore | e. | graduate student |
| c. | junior    |    |                  |

What is your major? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your marital status?

- |    |               |    |           |
|----|---------------|----|-----------|
| a. | never married | d. | widowed   |
| b. | married       | e. | separated |
| c. | divorced      |    |           |

Which best describes your ethnic background?

- American Indian or Alaskan native origin
- Asian or Pacific Islander origin
- Black, Afro-American, or African origin
- Hispanic
- White, non-Hispanic

Which best describes the community in which you lived longest prior to college?

- rural area (not near a town or city)
- in or near a small town (population less than 2,500)
- in or near a larger town (population 2,501-10,000)
- in or near a small city (population 10,001-50,000)
- in or near a larger city (population 50,001-200,000)
- in or near a metropolitan area (population over 200,000)

Are you a member of a sorority?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you

- live on campus?
- commute to campus from Morehead area?
- commute to campus from outside Morehead area?

Appendix B  
(Consent Form)



### INFORMED CONSENT FORM

This is to certify that I hereby give permission to volunteer in a study as an authorized part of the educational and research program of Morehead State University under the supervision of Velma L. Campbell. The investigation and the participant's part in the investigation have been fully explained by Ms. Campbell or her assistant and I understand her explanation.

I have been given an opportunity to ask questions I may have had and all such inquiries have been answered to my satisfaction. I understand that I am free to deny any answer to specific items or questions in the questionnaire. I understand that any data or answers to questions will remain confidential with regard to the identity of the participant.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, I have no physical or mental illness or weakness that would cause risk during participation in this investigation. I further understand that I am free to withdraw consent and terminate participation at any time.

---

Date

Participant's Signature

Appendix C  
(Verbal Instructions to Participants)

## VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPANTS

My name is Velma Campbell and I am working on a project as part of the requirement for an advanced degree in counseling. This questionnaire is part of that project. It's intended to assess the amount of sexually coercive behavior experienced by female students at Morehead State University.

This is an anonymous questionnaire. Please don't write your name on the questionnaire. Your identity will not be connected in any way with your answers on the questionnaire. The university does require that I have you sign a consent form, but this form will in no way be connected with the questionnaire you take.

Your participation is strictly voluntary. You do not have to participate if you do not wish to do so and will not be penalized in any way if you don't. If you do participate, you may withdraw from participation at any time. If you start to answer the questionnaire and choose not to complete it, you do not have to complete it. If there are any specific questions to which you do not wish to respond on the questionnaire, you are free to skip those.

The following instructions are for people who do not want to take the questionnaire. You may leave the room before the questionnaire is passed out if you do not want to take it. If you don't want to take it but would feel uncomfortable leaving at this time, you may remain in your seat until such time as you do feel comfortable leaving. You may accept a consent form but refrain from signing it and turn in a blank form. You may accept a questionnaire but refrain from answering

it as well. When you are ready to leave the room, you may turn in the blank questionnaire.

For those of you who do agree to take the questionnaire but decide after taking a portion of it that you do not want it to be counted, you write "Please destroy" on the front of the questionnaire and turn it in and it will be destroyed by shredding.

All the questionnaires and consent forms will be kept under lock and key in my office in Allie Young Hall. They will be destroyed by shredding once my project is completed. Please do not take the questionnaire if you have taken it in another class or if you are not yet 18 years old.

Counseling services are available free of charge to MSU students. The counseling center is located in 112 Allie Young Hall. Services provided include dealing with issues regarding sexual coercion.

Does anyone have any questions?

If you have any questions later, you may contact me at my office in the university counseling center at 783-2123. You may also ask me questions if you need to do so while taking the questionnaire.

(At this point, I passed out and collected the consent forms.)

Now I'm going to pass out the questionnaires. I need to point out that there is a correction in the directions which you will notice that made on each page. Regardless of your response to the first question on each page, please answer questions L-O on each separate page.

Please lay questionnaires facedown on the desk as you leave. Thank you for your time and attention. (I also wrote the instructions about answering questions L-O on the blackboard. In addition, I also write my name and office number and telephone number on the blackboard.)